

Weather
Corner

Tonight's low expected to drop below zero

The forecast
Tonight — Partly cloudy with a low around -5. Wind chill values between -8 and -18. Northwest wind around 5 mph.
Thursday — Partly sunny, then gradually becoming sunny with a high around 18. Wind chill values between -8 and -18.
Thursday night — Mostly clear with a low around 9. West wind around 10 mph.
Friday — Partly cloudy, with a high around 35. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 17.
Saturday — Partly cloudy with a high around 42.
Saturday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 20.
Sunday — Partly cloudy with a low near 18.
Temperatures
Tuesday's high, 16
Low this morning, 1
Records for this date, 76 in 1923, -14 in 1909
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.06
December's precipitation, 0.06
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119.
Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Briefly

College to hold special meeting

There will be a special meeting of the Colby Community College Board of Trustees at 5 p.m., Monday, in the Thomas Hall board room. The purpose of the meeting, said Bev Anderson, administrative assistant to the president, will be in discussing the presidential search process. All meetings are open to the public.

Preschooler moms meet Thursday

The Mothers of Preschoolers group will meet from 9:30 to 11:15 a.m., Thursday, at the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin Ave. The guest speaker will be Charles Schwanke followed by a gift wrapping activity. The group is open to everyone with children under the age of 6 and childcare is available.
For those planning to attend, bring a box gift to practice wrapping.

Big Brothers Big Sisters plan event

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County is planning a fundraising breakfast from 7 to 8 a.m., Tuesday, at the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin Ave.
The breakfast is by free-will donation and the purpose is to either introduce people to the benefits of being a Big Brother or Big Sister or educate individuals on what the program is about. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Christmas dance Saturday

Ron Snyder of Colby will call for the Golden Buckle Christmas Dance starting at 8 p.m., Saturday, at the Colby Community Building.
Admission is one (nonperishable) food item for Genesis Thomas County or by paying the regular admission. This will be the only dance held in December, officials said.

Diabetes workshop next week

People with diabetes can learn more about the disease at a workshop from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 15, sponsored by Citizens Medical Center in the hospital meeting room. Those on the agenda include Debbie Hinnen, registered nurse, and Susan Martin, registered dietitian, from Mid-America Diabetes Associates of Wichita, who will talk about disease management. Jeanene Brown, registered nurse and director of the Citizens Medical Center education department, said it's vitally important that those with diabetes get as much education as possible to prevent complications that come with this disease. Brown said most health insurances will pay for the workshop and it will help if the person's own primary care physician sends a physician referral or call Mid-America for this referral. If interested, Mid-America Diabetes Association can be reached at (316) 687-3125, or 888-879-5101 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For questions, call 460-4850.

College Angel tree helps others

Community service and helping others is one of the important goals for members of the Student Senate at Colby Community College.
The group, with the help of advisors Skip Sharp and Diane Frazier, is sponsoring an Angel Tree for their December community service project.
Students, faculty and staff members are encouraged to choose a paper Angel from the tree located in the Student Union cafeteria. Each angel represents a child of a student attending CCC.
"We are asking that participants purchase an age-appropriate toy, game or article of clothing for the angel that is chosen," said Frazier. "Each angel includes a description with suggestions for gifts."
Student Senate is encouraging participants to spend at least \$15 for each child. Gifts do not need to be wrapped. They should be delivered to the Campus Bookstore or the Dean of Students' office before noon Friday, Dec. 9. Gifts will be delivered to the parents of the child during finals week



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College
Kathy Britton, Colby College receptionist, picked a name off the Angel Tree.

Ceremony honors work zone deaths

Kansas and Missouri Departments of Transportation employees gathered Tuesday to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives in highway work zone crashes.
"An injury crash can have a huge effect on people's lives forever," said KDOT Director of Operations Mike Crow.
The ceremony took place in front of the National Work Zone Memorial at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo., in conjunction with the Heart of America Chapter of the American Traffic Safety Service Association's 2005 How-To Conference.
The memorial also stresses the continuing need for safety in work zones. More than 1,000 people are killed in work zone crashes in the United States each year. The workers who were honored during the ceremony included:
• KDOT employee Richard Cunningham, killed Aug. 1 on K-130 near Emporia;
• KDOT employee Marvin "Scott" McDonald, killed June 1 on US-75 near Topeka;
• MoDOT employee Julie Love, killed July 22, 2004, on I-435 in Kansas City.
KDOT employee Gary Burroughs was also honored at the ceremony. Burroughs was seriously injured in the crash that killed Cunningham.

KU professor treated after beating

LAWRENCE (AP) — A professor whose planned course on creationism and intelligent design was canceled after he sent e-mails deriding Christian conservatives was hospitalized Monday after an apparent roadside beating.
University of Kansas religious studies professor Paul Mirecki told the *Lawrence Journal-World* that two men who beat him were making references to the class that was to be offered for the first time this spring.
Originally called "Special Topics in Religion: Intelligent Design, Creationism and other Religious Mythologies," the course was canceled last week at Mirecki's request.
The class was added after the Kansas Board of Education decided to include more criticism of evolution in science standards for elementary and secondary students.

"I didn't know them," Mirecki said of his assailants, "but I'm sure they knew me."
Messages left by the Associated Press on Mirecki's cell phone were not immediately returned Monday night.
One recent e-mail from Mirecki to members of a student organization referred to religious conservatives as "fundies," and said a course describing intelligent design as mythology would be a "nice slap in their big fat face."
Mirecki has apologized for those comments.
Lt. Kari Wempe, a spokeswoman for the Douglas County Sheriff's Department, said a deputy was dispatched to Lawrence Memorial Hospital after receiving a call around 7 a.m. regarding a battery.

She said Mirecki reported he was attacked around 6:40 a.m. in rural Douglas County south of Lawrence.
Mirecki told the *Journal-World* he was driving to breakfast when he noticed the men tailgating him in a pickup truck.
"I just pulled over hoping they would pass, and then they pulled up real close behind," he said.
"They got out, and I made the mistake of getting out."
He said the men beat him on the head, shoulders and back with their fists, and possibly a metal object.
Wempe said Mirecki drove himself to the hospital after the roadside attack.

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A message from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Cancer Information Service, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and American Cancer Society.

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